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Alumni News

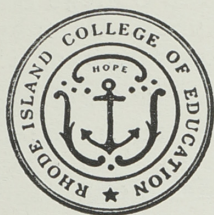
Rhode Island College

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ALUMNI NEWS

Vol. IV. No. 4

March—April

R.I.C.E. CURRICULUM REVISED

The revised curriculum of the College will be introduced next year and will probably be in full operation in three years.

Major change in the program is the emphasis on general or liberal education. In the Elementary curriculum, not less than 60% of the hours will be given to general education, and in the secondary fields not less than 70%. This compares with the present 49% in the elementary program and 53-63% in the secondary.

The number of hours required for graduation has been reduced from 140 to 130, the weekly load of students dropped from 18½ to 16½ hours, and the number of courses lowered from 56 to 43.

The responsible teaching experience will remain unchanged.

A unique feature of the new curriculum is the provision that in the Early Childhood and Elementary Education programs students shall elect a field of concentration in one of these areas: Literature, Mathematics, Social Studies, History, Geography, Laboratory Science, French, Music, and Art.

While the secondary program in Mathematics and Science will continue as a double-major, it will be possible in the English-Social Studies curriculum to major in one field and minor in the other. A few well-qualified students will be permitted to elect a minor in French instead of one of the other subjects.

The reduction in the number of hours to be spent in professional preparation will be brought about by consolidation rather than elimination, with many courses combined into "practicums," intensive courses which will meet five times a week. Elementary students will take two of these and secondary students, one.

President Gaige, commenting on the revised curriculum, expresses the belief that students educated under the new program will be "well-educated professionally, with the obvious advantages of increased general and liberal education."

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

A very promising group of enthusiastic applicants is seeking admission to R.I.C.E. this year. 340 were examined on March 23, originally intended to be the only examination day. As that date drew near it became evident that it would not be possible to accommodate all those who were applying and it was decided that examinations would also be given on May 14.

The total number of 1955 applicants was 390.

ALUMNI BALL PLANS

Virginia Gregory '55 and Frank Carter '42, co-chairmen of the Alumni Ball, have announced that the semi-formal dance will be held Saturday, April 28, at the Pawtucket Country Club.

Dancing will be from eight-thirty to one o'clock, with a buffet supper served at 10:30 P. M. Music will be by Ralph Stuart's Orchestra.

Tickets are \$5.00 per couple and may be obtained from Pat O'Dea or any member of the committee, or at the Alumni Office.

Committee chairmen are: Hospitality, Helen Page '47 and Dorothy McLearn Sullivan '32; Arrangements, Regina Sheehan Bush '41 and Henry Cote '54; Tickets, Pat O'Dea '55, Frank Bucci '54 and Frank Burns '51; Invitations, Mary Zajac '52; Printing, Celine Asselin '51; Publicity, Frank Milligan '41.

The Ball is being planned in response to the ardent and oft-expressed desire of a large body of the Alumni, and a capacity crowd will be expected. The last official Alumni dance was a supper dance held in November, 1947.

ANNUAL MEETING

Claire V. Crohan, Alumni President, will preside at the Annual Meeting of the Associated Alumni to be held at the College on Wednesday evening, May 16. The meeting will be preceded by the Annual Dinner which will be served in the College Cafeteria.

Election of all officers will be held at this meeting. The term of the Alumni Trustee, however, does not expire until 1957.

Other business of the evening will include reports of all officers and all committees, the completion of the constitution revision, and other routine and new business.

Notice of the Annual Meeting and Dinner will be sent to all active members before May 1.

SPECIAL NOTICE

In preparation for the Annual Meeting at which officers will be elected by vote of active members present, the membership committee would point out this provision of the Alumni By-laws: "Active members shall pay dues at the rate of \$1.00 per year . . . Non-payment of dues for two consecutive years will cause a member to be . . . placed on the inactive list, making him ineligible to vote. No notices of meetings will be sent to such persons. Active membership may be regained by paying dues for the current year. Membership shall expire one year from the date on which dues are paid."

AROUND THE COLLEGE

Choir Concert

A combined concert of the R.I.C.E. Choir and the Providence College Glee Club was held at the College March 13. The program was warmly received by a capacity audience. Direction was by Rev. Leo S. Cannon, O.P. and Rita V. Bicho.

Convocation

Elizabeth Gray Vining, author of **Windows for the Crown Prince** and many other books for children and adults, was awarded an honorary degree at a special academic convocation held at the College March 8. Mrs. Vining addressed the assembled faculty and students on "The Joy of Poetry."

Spring Production

The Dramatic League will present **Lady Windemere's Fan** April 17 and 18. Joseph D. Graham will direct. Alumni are welcome, but it will be necessary to secure tickets in advance.

SAVE THESE DATES

April 17, 18 Lady Windemere's Fan
April 28 ALUMNI BALL
May 16 Annual Meeting
June 16 Commencement

ANNUAL TEA

The Senior Class was honored at the Annual Alumni Tea and Reception held at the College Sunday, March 11. Chairman S. Elizabeth Campbell was assisted by an enthusiastic committee of the Class of '31 in arranging a most enjoyable afternoon.

The fifty-year class was represented in the receiving line by Mrs. Robert (Felna Philips) Craig. Receiving for the host class was Mrs. John (Ruth Monahan) McOsker. Also on hand to receive guests were College President William C. Gaige, Alumni President Claire V. Crohan, and Alumni Trustee Caroline E. Haverly.

Pourers were Mrs. William Gaige, Mary C. Roberts, Mrs. Frank E. Waite, Mrs. John McOsker, Mrs. John Smith, Dr. Mary T. Thorp, Miss Katherine Cuzner, and Mrs. C. James Herrick.

ALUMNI NOTES

Mrs. Bertha Hopkins Wilcox is making arrangements for the reunion of the Class of 1901 to be held at the College in May.

Frank Carter has just completed a newsletter for the Class of '42. Noted among the items: Two members of the class have doctor's degrees, eleven have earned Master's. Approximately one-third of the class are active members of the Association.

To The Associated Alumni of Rhode Island College of Education

It is with pleasure that the Board of Trustees addresses this communication to the Associated Alumni of the College and with it sends its greetings.

During the past few months, the members of the Board have been deeply immersed in the plans for the relocation of the College. We have now emerged with plans which should meet the desires and expectations of all who are interested in the effective performance of its important work.

As we contemplate the translation of these plans into physical terms of campus, classrooms, libraries, laboratory school, and all the other things that make possible the functioning processes of education, we are convinced that no institution has stood on a more promising threshold of a new and invigorated life.

The people of the State as a whole have a lively interest in the College. It is a possession of the people and is supported by them. But more important, it performs a distinctive function within the educational structure of the State. It is intimately related to the schools and to the children and to the teachers who teach them. It is this proximity to the intimate experiences of the schoolroom which has given to the College so important a place in the community.

And among the citizens of the State, the Alumni represent a special group. They have a special relationship to the College. They are indebted to it for an important part of their own educational experience. They have a special pride in its accomplishments. They look forward with special faith and confidence in its ever enlarging usefulness to the State.

This interest of its Alumni in the welfare of the College, their loyalty to its ideals, their appreciation of its needs, can be woven into useful service in its behalf.

A special opportunity will be offered during this present year for this kind of service — in connection with the building program. The people of the State will be asked to give their approval in November of a request for additional funds for the relocation project. Alumni can help to disseminate the information which is essential to an understanding of a needs and the rendering of a considered judgment.

The Board of Trustees cherishes and encourages the kind of loyalty and devotion which has marked Alumni relationships to the College through the years. It expresses the hope that it will continue to be a resource of enduring value for the years which lie ahead.

Sincerely yours,

Board of Trustees of State Colleges

James P. Adams, Chairman

Walter F. Farrell

Arthur F. Hanley

Caroline E. Haverly

Georgette V. Ramos

Frederick C. Tanner

Michael F. Walsh